

REMARKS

Claims 4-6 and 9 are currently withdrawn as directed to non-elected subject matter. Claim 10 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 8, 11 and 12 are currently amended. Claims 14 and 15 are newly added. No new matter is added and support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification and in the original claims. Upon entry of this amendment Claims 1-3, 7-8, and 11-15 will be under examination.

New Claims

New claims 14 and 15 have been added as suggested by the Examiner. Support for these claims can be found, at least, on pages 37-41 of the present specification.

Title

In the Non-Final Office action mailed January 9, 2008, the Examiner indicated that the title is not clearly indicative of the invention to which claims are directed. The title is currently amended to remove the word “protein” as recommended by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

In the Non-Final Office Action mailed January 9, 2008, the Examiner rejected claims 8 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The Examiner indicated that amending the claims to recite that the cells are “isolated” or “cultured” would obviate the instant rejection. Applicant has amended Claims 8, 11 and 12 to indicate that the cells are “isolated” as recommended by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In the Non-Final Office Action mailed January 9, 2008, the Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by WO/97/20937. Applicants have canceled Claim 10 without prejudice or disclaimer thereby obviating the current rejection.

Claim Objections

In the Non-Final Office Action mailed January 9, 2008, the Examiner objected to claim 1 for containing typographical errors. Applicant submits that Claim 1 has been amended to correct the typographical errors and respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed January 9, 2008, and early and favorable consideration of the claims is requested. If the Examiner believes any informalities remain in the application that may be corrected by Examiner's amendment, or there are any other issues which can be resolved by telephone interview, a telephone call to the undersigned agent at (404) 572-2447 is respectfully solicited. No additional fees are believed due; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0980.

Respectfully submitted,

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